

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:580
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF WEAPON SYSTEM
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DRDO's delay in developing the indigenous weapon system have resulted in imports of defence items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, especially after Kargil war; and
- (c) the steps the Government propose to take to modernise the DRDO?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b) : Some programmes and projects of DRDO have been delayed due to technical complexities and sanctions imposed. There have been some delays in the development of short range surface-to-air missile Trishul due to technological problem. The project was delinked from the user Services. In view of this, Services have been allowed to meet their urgent requirements through import.

(c) DRDO is a dynamic organisation engaged in development of state-of-the-art weapon systems for the Armed Forces to achieve technological self-reliance. We have created expertise and infrastructure facilities in almost all disciplines of military technology. We are well organized to take care of Services' needs.